

REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-17 of the original application have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer and new claims 18-30 have been added. No new matter has been added. Applicant notes that the claims have been renumbered as if the Article 34 amendments have not been entered.

It is noted that claims 18-30 are substantial duplicates of claims found to meet the requirements for patentability in the corresponding PCT application. See the IPER which is filed contemporaneously herewith. Applicant therefore submits that the application is now in condition for allowance, and requests examination on the merits and that a notice of allowance be timely issued.

If the Examiner does not believe that the application is in condition for allowance, he or she is invited to contact the Applicant's representative to discuss the same.

Respectfully submitted,

By



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